

The Romulus News

NOVEMBER 5, 1999 – NOVEMBER 17, 1999

"the little paper"

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 8

Timely Tidbits ...

Public Invited To Informal Meetings

The City of Romulus invites you to attend its next "informal" public meeting, to be held in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road, at Goddard) on Monday, November 8, from 7 to 7:30 p.m. (immediately prior to the regular City Council meeting).

First suggested by Councilman LeRoy Burcroff, the monthly meetings give interested citizens a chance to discuss their ideas and concerns with their government representatives in an atmosphere that's relaxed and free of rigid time restrictions.

Bazaar/Luncheon

The Community United Methodist Church women's group will host its annual Bazaar fund-raiser at the church (11160 Olive at Goddard in downtown Romulus) on Friday, November 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Besides a selection of crafts, linens, "attic treasures," baked goods, and candy offered for sale, the event will feature a "hot chicken salad" luncheon (\$7 per person) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (carry-outs available).

For more information, call the church: 734-941-0736.

French Week at RHS

French students at Romulus High School (RHS) have planned a number of special events to celebrate National French Week (November 4–10).

"The purpose of this week-long celebration is to highlight the many contributions of French explorers, artists, musicians, scientists, and philosophers to world culture and civilization," said RHS foreign-language teacher, Rosa Russenberger.

Like to learn more? Russenberger invites local cable subscribers to tune into the district's education channel (#19) during French Week for an interesting and entertaining presentation by French students. □

New Alternative to Student Suspension Should Inspire Positive Change Through Observation

Romulus Community Schools students who have been given a "severe-clause suspension" may have a one-time-only alternative to its traditional enforcement, thanks to a new program that's being sponsored by the School Community Committee and 34th District Court Judges Tina Brooks Green and Brian A. Oakley.

"Except in cases of especially severe infractions, such as the use of drugs or weapons, students will have the option to spend a day in our courtrooms instead of serving a traditional suspension," Judge Oakley explained. "Hopefully, seeing the consequences of choices that others have made will prove to be an effective lesson."

"Students will be responsible for keeping a log of their observations during this disciplinary period, and will be required to return with a statement that reflects their intentions to improve their own behavior," added Judge Green.

Since the program will be offered to students in grades six through eight, Romulus Middle School Principal Ed Clark and elementary Principals Diane Golka (Barth), Phyllis Adkins (Cory), Lynne Mossoian (Halecreek), Shellie Moore (Merriman) and Debbie Juriga



Judge Brian A. Oakley



Judge Tina Brooks Green

(Wick) will be involved. Among those representing the Romulus Police Department will be Lieutenant James Rafalski, Commander of the Community Neighborhood Services Unit, and Youth Officer Jeff Lazarsky.

"We are hopeful that this pilot pro-

gram will decrease the number of repeat offenders," said Adkins. "As data is collected concerning its effectiveness in curbing the recurrence of similar violations, it will be used to determine whether the program should be continued in future years." □

4 Police Officers Suspended Without Pay

By Kristi Stephens

Although the Romulus Police Department has concluded an internal investigation into the questionable conduct of four of its officers, not many details concerning its findings appear to be forthcoming.

The off-duty officers—still unnamed, but believed to be relatively new additions to the Department—were present at a northeast Detroit "blind pig" on October 16 when it was raided by undercover officers from the Detroit Police Department (DPD) and the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. Along with three DPD officers, a deputy from the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and about 300 other "customers," the four were ticketed for "loitering in a place of illegal occupation"—a misdemeanor.

Initial reports alluded to a number of criminal activities (including prostitution, gambling, the sale of narcotics,

and underage drinking) taking place on the premises, but Romulus Police Chief Charles Kirby said that those reports were inaccurate.

"The investigation report from the Detroit Police Department, as well as other evidence, was examined during the course of the internal investigation," Kirby stated in a press release issued October 28. "The evidence reviewed did not substantiate early accounts of what transpired..."

The Romulus News was unable to confirm any details concerning the report that Chief Kirby received from the DPD, since a spokesperson from the DPD's Office of Public Information claimed that, as of November 1, the Department had not yet completed its investigation.

Although Kirby would not go into detail about what type of transgressions were uncovered by his department's internal probe, he said that it did

reveal "... conduct on the part of the officers that violated Official Orders of this department."

He went on to state, "The Romulus Police Department insists on a high standard of conduct for all officers to build and maintain public trust and confidence in our department. The standards of conduct apply, in situations such as this, during off-duty time as well as while on duty. Enforcement of the standards of conduct is essential and therefore each of the four officers have received a term of unpaid suspension and a probationary period to be served upon their return to duty."

As to the length of the suspension and probationary periods, Kirby declined to say.

"The officers involved remain valuable assets to this Department and to the community, and we are confident that the officers will not repeat this type of conduct in the future," he concluded.

Letter to the Editor

Reader Asks, "Citizens or Customers?"

To the editor:

We were outraged when we received Mayor William Oakley's recent "1999 Consumer Confidence Report for Drinking Water Quality" letter, which was addressed "To Our Customers." Was he not voted into office? Since when are taxpaying residents and voting citizens the Mayor's "customers"?

It makes us wonder, "What's he trying to sell us?"

The majority of the contaminants listed were in the high range – six years ago – yet, we are in the "quality limits" for all tests, according to Mayor Oakley. Sorry, we're not buying it. With hazardous-waste deep-injection wells popping up in Romulus, injunctions against their use being overturned, and airport and business growth taking place, "we customers" don't like what we're being "sold."

We are insulted that the Mayor addresses us as "customers." Since when did we change from "residents" to "customers" in the administrative and legislative offices of the City of Romulus? What else have they sold us Romulus "customers"?

What we need to do is purchase a new Mayor and City Council.

Sincerely,
Christine Baisden and
Claudia Suchan

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity. □

Guest Commentary

HMOs Must Focus on Patient's Well-being

By Representative Mike Hanley, House Democratic Leader

If you aren't personally a member of a health maintenance organization (HMO), chances are that you know someone who is. More than one million Michigan citizens are enrolled in HMOs and rely on them for health-insurance coverage that is often not what we think of as traditional. In fact, over the years, as HMOs have increased in numbers and become a more frequent choice of employers for their employees, questions have arisen over whether the first focus of HMOs is patient health care and well-being.

Because of the concerns that we have heard, House Democrats are proposing a series of new laws to protect those who are HMO members. We are committed to health-care reform that:

- puts patients, rather than profits, first;
- strengthens the doctor-patient relationship; and
- gives consumers confidence in the health-care marketplace.

Given the importance of adequate health care today, we cannot ignore these very real concerns.

The cornerstone bill in the package would give Michigan citizens the ability to sue their HMOs for malpractice if they are harmed after necessary medical treatment is denied or delayed. This bill would also require HMOs to exercise "ordinary care" – the same standard

that family doctors use – when making decisions about whether to provide treatment. Hopefully, this would strongly discourage HMOs from denying certain treatments due to cost considerations.

It is unfortunate, but true, that we currently have a health-care system that allows HMO managers to deny treatments that have been recommended by doctors. We need to put doctors and patients back in charge, focusing on what is best for the patient, not the bottom line.

Other bills in the legislation package would:

- create a Patient Advocate in the Attorney General's office; streamline the process by which patients appeal an HMO decision, cutting the time from 90 days to 30 days; and allow patients to appeal HMO decisions to an independent medical review board.
- prohibit the practice of paying cash incentives to physicians for declining to recommend certain treatments, or for prescribing less-expensive (and often less-potent) generic drug.
- require HMOs to provide coverage for patients who wish to seek a second opinion.
- require the Department of Community Health to provide a toll-free hotline for patient complaints.

continued on page 11

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The Police Report

Zero Tolerance for Deadbeat Drivers

Spurred by the dramatic, nationwide increase in child-restraint use, as well as the significant drop in child fatalities that has occurred since the initiation, two years ago, of a 50-state crackdown on drivers who endanger children by failing to restrain them properly, the Romulus Police Department will once again participate in Operation ABC (America Buckles-up Children). The stepped-up enforcement of child-restraint laws will begin November 15 and continue through the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

"During the Operation ABC mobilization, our officers will be looking for and ticketing 'deadbeat drivers' — adults who, regardless of the widespread attention on child-passenger safety, are still putting children at deadly risk by failing to buckle them in," stated Executive Lieutenant Eric Painter of the Romulus Police Department. "Traffic crashes remain the leading cause of death for American children of all races. Six out of ten children who die in crashes are unbuckled."

Painter said that, besides being encouraged by the effectiveness of the nationwide crackdowns, police officers are committed to the effort because of their own experience with crash victims who were unbuckled children.

"Our department is calling on our community to adopt a 'zero tolerance' for unrestrained children," said Painter. "No one should look the other way when they see a child at risk. Every citizen must make sure that their relatives, neighbors, and friends know that letting a child ride unbuckled — no matter how short the ride — is always life-threatening and never worth the risk."

Another strategy to promote proper child restraint is the 1999 Small Fry Campaign. A joint effort between the Romulus Police Department and John

Dolencic, owner of three area Burger King restaurants, the campaign is a rewards-based program designed to raise children's awareness of the importance of complying with child-restraint laws. Children found to be properly restrained during the Police Department's Operation ABC crackdown will receive a certificate for a free small-size order of French fries, redeemable at any of Dolencic's Burger Kings.

"If we teach them at an early age, they will be more likely to voluntarily comply with the law when they are older," explained Lieutenant James Rafalski of the Department's Community Neighborhood Services Unit.

It was Rafalski's idea to explore the program with Dolencic. The two are already partners in a similar program that rewards children for academic excellence in the schools.

Romulus police will also be stepping up enforcement of adult safety-belt laws because, said Painter, it's a proven fact that adults who don't buckle up themselves don't buckle up kids, either.

"Research has found that buckled drivers are three times more likely to restrain their child passengers than drivers who don't buckle up," he stated.

This year, as one of two states in the nation to receive funding to increase child safety-restraint use, Michigan Operation ABC is supported by National Operation ABC, and is also endorsed by the Traffic Safety Association of Michigan, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, and Michigan State Police.

Michigan child-restraint laws require that children under the age of one ride in a car seat. Children one to three must be in a car seat when riding in the front; in the back, they can ride in a car seat or be restrained with seat belts. Children ages four to fifteen must wear a seat belt when riding in any motor vehicle. □

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Cory "Covered" in School Spirit



During School Spirit Week, Cory Elementary students gathered blankets for donation to the Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross. Pictured here with 50 of those blankets are students (front, from left) Meriah Chapman, Leroy Talley, Kandice Penn, and Eric Savitskie, and parents (back, from left) Shelly Leon (Assistant Parent Coordinator), Reverend Rita Talley (Parent Coordinator), and Lisa Savitskie (Assistant Parent Coordinator).

School District Begins Plans for Bond-issue Projects

By Richard Kruse

The Romulus school district is moving quickly to develop the various enhancements to be funded by the \$34,165,000 bond issue that voters passed in the September 27 election.

The first item of business is the pricing of the bonds themselves. The lead underwriter in this effort is First Union Corp. Co-underwriters include A. G. Edwards, Edward Jones, and Standard Federal Financial. Joel Carr, Romulus Community Schools' Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, reports that the bonds will have maturities of one to thirty years; the longer the maturity period, the higher the interest rate. Municipal bonds are free of both federal and state taxes if purchased by Michigan residents.

The Board of Education has selected Kingscott of Kalamazoo, Michigan, as its architectural firm, and has retained Barton Mallow as its construction manager. At a special study session held on October 18, the Board indicated its preference for a proposal that would make construction of the new elementary school its highest priority, along with renovations to the High School's athletic facilities at the Middle School. High School additions, including a new pool and the "Lab 6000," would follow, with science labs at the elementaries and additions to Merri-man and Halecreek concluding the project. District-wide work on technol-

ogy upgrades would begin as soon as possible and continue until completed.

Approximate timelines are:

New Elementary School

- Planning: November 1999.
- Construction Begins: June 2000.
- Construction Completed: August 2001.

Bleachers/New Concession Stand

- Planning: November 1999.
- Construction Begins: April 2000.
- Construction Completed: September 2001.

High School Pool/Lab 6000

- Planning: April 2000.
- Construction Begins: March 2001.
- Construction Completed: July 2002.

Elementary Additions/Remodeling

- Planning: September 2000.
- Construction Begins: June 2001.
- Construction Completed: December 2002.

Several committees would be formed to aid in the development of plans for these projects. These committees would consist of Board members, central-office administrators, principals, teachers, support staff, and citizens, and would act in an advisory capacity to the full Board of Education. They include the:

- New Elementary School-Additions to Current Schools Committee,
- Athletic Renovations-High School Pool Committee, and
- Technology Committee (includes a subcommittee on Lab 6000). □



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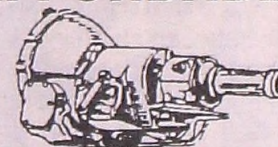
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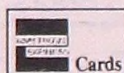
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A Happy Halloween



At district schools, lots of decorations put everyone in the holiday mood. This attractive display greeted visitors to Wick Elementary.



Decorations were a little more sinister at Halecreek Elementary, where students built mini haunted houses.



"Spider Woman" Nora Adkins managed to keep from biting Jacob Kortykowski, Gwendolyn Russell, and 30-odd other children who came to the public library on October 26 to hear her "witchy tales."

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Community Learning Program Celebrates Health, Family, You



Nicholas Simmons was one of many who attended the Wick Health, Family, and You Dinner.

"A special thanks to all of the parents who attended the first series of 'Health, Family, & You' dinner workshops at Merriman and Wick elemen-

taries last month," says Deanna Strong.

The Director of the Romulus Community Schools' new 21st-century Community Learning Centers planned the event to give parents of students in grades kindergarten through eight an opportunity to learn more about health issues that are of concern to them. The information will help Learning Center staff members plan topics for future dinner workshops.

According to Strong, the dinners were made possible through an exciting new partnership between the University of Michigan School of Nursing, Oakwood/Romulus Adolescent Health Center, Romulus High School's Health Occupations class, Romulus Community Schools' Special Services Department, and the 21st-century Community Learning Center.

Strong urges all parents to keep an eye out for future Health, Family, & You dinner workshops.

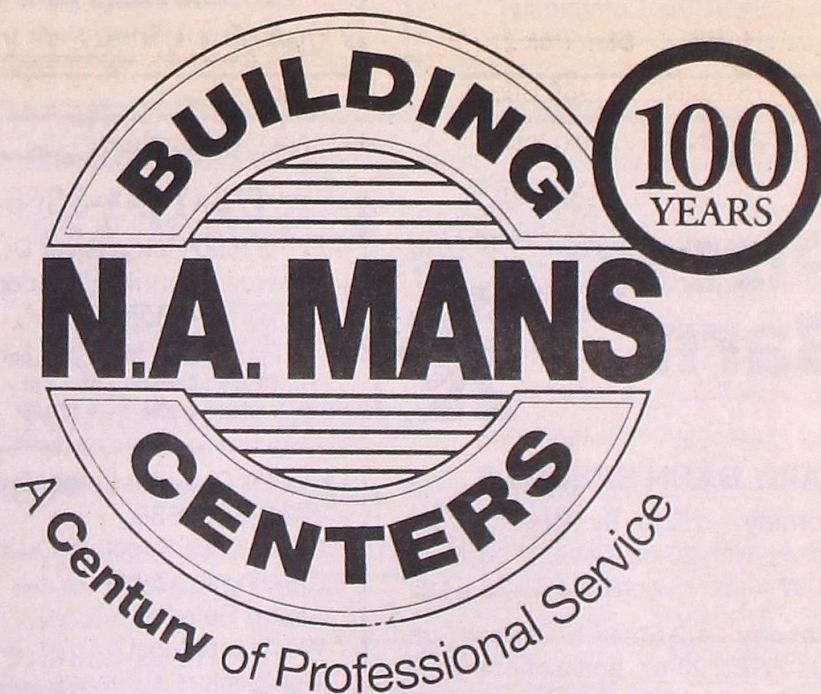
Further information will be sent home through your schoolchildren, or feel free to contact the 21st-century Community Learning Center at 734-722-1050, ext. 273. □

Learning To Teach Through Games



(From left) Gerilynn Kline, Lisa Eischer, Amy Winter, and Jean Reott were among many elementary teachers who attended a Romulus Community Schools in-service workshop on "Teaching the Standards Through Games and Activities."

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Golf Team Finishes Successful Season



Under the guidance of Coach Bill Knight, the Romulus High School golf team has completed a very successful season with an overall record of 37 wins and 12 losses (7-11 in the MEGA Blue League for a fifth-place finish). Here, (back, from left) Scott Cutcher (senior/captain), Darren Cox (junior), Brandon Wildman (senior), Warren Howard (junior), and (front, from left) sophomores Mike Murphy and Roger Chapman display their first-place trophy from the Ypsilanti Invitational and medals from the Taylor Scramble (in which they tied for first out of 26 teams).



CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

You might not have known our "mystery man" when this picture was taken, but his adult face is familiar to many people in the City of Romulus.

To learn his identity, anagram (rearrange) each "key word" below – WITH THE ADDITION OF ONE LETTER – to answer the corresponding clue, and fill in the blanks accordingly.

If the puzzle is done correctly, the added letters, read from top to bottom, will spell out the name of this prominent local citizen.

ADD THE LETTER . . . TO THE LETTERS IN . . . TO GET

- ___ . . . PERISH . . . speak very softly _____
- ___ . . . LADE . . . standard or model _____
- ___ . . . ECRU . . . "filthy" money? _____
- ___ . . . TANNER . . . room at the top of a lighthouse _____
- ___ . . . STRIDENCE . . . producing rainbowlike colors _____
- ___ . . . CRESTS . . . Pfeiffer or Streep, for example _____
- ___ . . . RUDER . . . _____ on the Orient Express _____
- ___ . . . HART . . . Star Trek 2: The _____ of Khan _____
- ___ . . . PRALINE . . . 1980 Bridges/Nielsen lampoon _____
- ___ . . . AMENITY . . . explosive addition to "paper/scissors/rock" _____
- ___ . . . ROILED . . . "One Tin _____" (early '70s hit) _____
- ___ . . . WEIRDO . . . Mike Brady, before he married Carol _____
- ___ . . . SLIER . . . Tennessee football team _____
- ___ . . . THRICE . . . scale for measuring earthquakes _____
- ___ . . . NOSY . . . biter of Holyfield's ear _____
- ___ . . . ERASE . . . coffin carrier _____
- ___ . . . PULE . . . mint-flavored drink _____
- ___ . . . MOOSE . . . Lotharios or Casanovas _____

For solution, see page 8

YOU'LL FIND IT IN "SHERIFF"

How many words of four or more letters can you form using only the letters found in EDITOR? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, plurals, obsolete and archaic words, slang and informal words, poetic words, hyphenated words, contractions, alternate spellings, and foreign words are not permitted.

Our list of 18 words can be found on page 8

Learning Buddies Program Begins at Halecreek

By Cathy Kudra

Halecreek Elementary School's sixth-grade students are working with kindergartners for one-half hour each week to help reinforce basic reading strategies and listening and comprehension skills. This is done through Reading, Center Activities, and sharing ideas and experiences.

The sixth-graders benefit from the program because it gives them the opportunity to practice and strengthen their oral reading skills and review good reading practices as they share this experience with the kindergarten children. They feel good about helping their "buddy" each week.

The Learning Buddies Program is a School Service Project in which the oldest children at Halecreek help the youngest children. It is one example of being a Community of Learn-

ers who help and care about each other.

Both groups of students look forward to this time they share. Some comments made by participating students were:

- "I like Learning Buddy Time because I like reading to someone. I like my Buddy because he is a smart kid and a good listener. He likes the books I read to him. I show respect to him and he shows respect to me. Together, we have fun." (Lawrence Stewart, grade six)
- "My Buddy's name is Lawrence. He reads me a lot of books. Sometimes I pick them out. Sometimes he does. He knows how to read all the books. I read him my book about leaves today. I like Lawrence to be my Learning Buddy." (Jerry McCray, kindergarten) □



(From left) Anthony Tucker, John Thomas, and Eric Poet.



(From left) Lawrence Stewart and Jerry McCray.

RMS Students Honored



Romulus Middle School's "Students of the Month" for September.

Romulus Middle School teachers selected a total of 35 students to receive the school's "Student of the Month" award based on the youths' exceptional behavior and academic performance during the month of September.

Students attending a brief ceremony in their honor received a certificate of achievement a Romulus Middle School "Bulldogs" pencil and mouse pad.

Parents in attendance were given a "Bulldogs" mug to recognize their support of the students.

Principal Ed Clark would like to acknowledge the following students.

September Students of the Month

Chris Bishop, Brenden Boyd, Kelly Bunyak, DeMarvelous Carter, Ryan Cordle, Joshua DeLeon, Melissa Foley, Tanya Formosa, Stacey Gilbert, Brandon Heim, Audra Howard, LaRiché Jones, Ronnie LeBlanc, Sherelle Levi, Stephen Lopez, Cherisé Lundy, Vanessa Malloy, Corie McKendry, Michelle Patterson, Emmanuel Peters, Tyrone Pickens, Kristina Rafalski, Tiffney Ramsay, Heather Saval, Britany Sawdy, Lindsay Sharp, Avery Stephenson, Rebecca Thornton, Jessica Trahey, Ian Vaughn, Kimberly Wilson, Marissa Wilson, Ashley Wright, Jeremiah Yeager, Janae Zimmerman.

Answers

answers to puzzles from page 7

CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

whisper, ideal, lucre, lantern,
iridescent, actress, Murder,
Wrath, Airplane, dynamite,
Soldier, widower, Oilers, Richter,
Tyson, hearse, julep, Romeos
"(Romulus City Councilman)
William Wadsworth, Jr."

YOU'LL FIND IT IN . . .

fief, fife, fire, fish, heir, hers, hire,
resh, rife, riff, rise, serf, sire, fifer,
fresh, serif, shier, shire

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Community Calendar

- **Self-hypnosis Seminars** – Certified hypnotherapist Larry Farrugia will conduct one-day seminars on pain reduction (November 10), weight reduction (November 17), and smoking cessation (November 24) from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins). Cost is \$35 per session. Registration deadlines are usually the Tuesday before each session; please call the Recreation office (734-942-6852) for details.
- **Holiday Craft Show** – The PRCUA Syrena Parents Club "Holiday Craft Show" will be held at the Canfield Community Center (1801 North Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights) on Saturday, November 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Barnum (the Musical)** – The Downriver Youth Performing Arts Center – a nonprofit organization – will showcase the talent and enthusiasm of 70 Downriver actors and actresses between the age of 3 and 21 during its production of the musical, *Barnum*, at River Rouge High School, 1460 West Coolidge Highway (Schaefer Road) beginning November 12. Show times will be: November 12 & 13 and November 19 & 20 – 7:30 p.m.; November 13 & 20 – 1 p.m. All seats are general admission. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$7 for students and senior citizens. Call 734-285-7310.
- **Youtheatre Offers Lyle, Lyle Crocodile** – Youtheatre's Wiggle Club (children ages three to six; no one under three will be admitted) presentation of *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile* has been set for Saturday, November 13 (11 a.m. and 2 p.m.), and Sunday, November 14 (2 p.m.), at Music Hall (located at 350 Madison Avenue in Detroit). Individual tickets are \$8 when purchased in advance; \$9 at the door. For more information, call 313-963-2366.
- **"An Evening of Swing"** – Tickets are now available for "An Evening of Swing" (featuring the County Connection Chorus of Sweet Adelines International and The Pros, a 17-member, big-band orchestra), set for 7 p.m. on Saturday, November 13, at the Ypsilanti Marriot at Eagle Crest. Sit back and listen to music from the '30s and '40s, then get up and learn how to swing dance! Tickets (\$15 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under) are available on an advance basis only. Call Betty Williams at 734-480-8843.
- **"African American Experience" Book Discussion Group** – The newly formed African American Experience Book Discussion Group will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting on November 17) at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall). New members are welcome. For more information, call either Alfaye Woods or Diane Hazen at the Library (734-942-7589) during its regular hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m.).
- **Attention, Class of 1950!** – Plans are in the works for the 50-year reunion of Romulus High School's Class of 1950. To find out more about how you can help plan this event, or to make suggestions about how it can be made the best reunion ever, call Donna (Rehkop) Genovese (734-941-0293) or Ruth (Stevenson) Meyers (734-941-0254), or contact Don Koza on line (www.bilygoat.id.com).
- **TOPS Meetings** – TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter #M1690, Taylor – a nonprofit weight-loss support group – invites you to attend its weekly meetings, which are held at 7:05 p.m. each Thursday at Taylor Church of Nazarene, Eureka Road just west of Telegraph. Dues are \$20/year + \$1/week (first visit free).
- **Big, Beautiful People Welcome!** – The "More to Love" Social Club for Big, Beautiful People and their admirers welcomes you. For more information, call 313-438-2720.
- **"Person of the Year" Nominees Sought** – The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for its annual "Person of the Year" award. Anyone who has made a significant contribution to the community is eligible. Nomination forms may be obtained by calling the Chamber office (734-326-4290). Deadline for return is Wednesday, December 1.
- **Head Start Seeks Applicants** – Romulus Head Start is recruiting eligible three- and four-year-old children for its free preschool program, which is held at Beverly School. Head Start serves children from low-income families, foster children, and children with disabilities. For more information, or to apply, call 734-334-1812.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar,
mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;
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EXECUTIVE SESSION, OCTOBER 11, 1999

The Executive Session of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, October 11, 1999, was called to order by President Bette M. Lenossi at 5:30 P.M.

Roll call showed all members present. All administrators were present, including Mr. Fred Schwarze, Attorney.

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, passed out data and discussed it with the Board of Education and Mr. Fred Schwarze relative to negotiations. Questions from Board members were answered by Dr. Bedell and Mr. Schwarze as well as Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, and Dr. Samuel B. La Monica, Director of Human Resources.

ADJOURNMENT:

10/99/1 Moved by Webb supported by McCraight that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth E. Berlinn, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Students Enjoy Pajama Day During Halecreek's School Spirit Week



Teacher Cathy Kudra joined students (from left) Brandon Gyurick, Brittany Gaddis, and Shaday Pankey in dressing up on Pajamas Day.

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 11, 1999

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, October 11, 1999, was called to order by President Bette M. Lenossi at 6:40 P.M.

Roll call showed all members present. All administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Lenossi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

10/99/2 Moved by Woods supported by Lambert to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

10/99/3 Moved by Lambert supported by Webb to approve the Minutes of September 28, 1999, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

None.

Bills for Payment

10/99/4 Moved by Lambert supported by Dick to approve the Bills for Payment as submitted by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Climate Committee Presentation

Mesdames Jeffery Royal and Chris Powers, Messrs. Doug Hoffman and Melvin Kimbrough, Romulus Police Lieutenant James Rafalski, and Romulus Police Officers John Smagner and Terri Smagner were present to update the Board of Education on the activities of the Climate Committee and respond to questions posed by members of the Board.

Bond Issue Planning

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, updated the Board on the bond issue financing and construction planning.

Study Session - Call Meeting

10/99/5 Moved by Woods supported by Lambert that the Board of Education hold a study session at 5:30 P.M., October 18, 1999, to meet with the district's architect and construction manager to formulate plans for the construction projects. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Members of the audience discussed their concerns, as they relate to the operation of the school district, with members of the Board of Education.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Board Member Millennium Series/RESA; 2) Flanagan Letter of Congratulations; and 3) "Thank You" to Dan Hurst/Homecoming.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mrs. Debbie Dick asked about Head Start and the Alumni Association.

Mrs. Eva Webb asked about the night-leader position at the High School and requested a cost estimate for televising board meetings at the November meeting.

Executive Session - Negotiations

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

10/99/6 Moved by Webb supported by Woods that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth E. Berlinn, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education



Sixth-graders sporting PJs included (from left) Samantha Arnett-Butscher, Kristina Pruett, Diana Thompson, and Tiffany Boteler.

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

EXECUTIVE SESSION, OCTOBER 12, 1999

The Executive Session of the Romulus Board of Education held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, was called to order by President Bette M. Lenossi at 5:42 P.M.

Roll call showed Member Eva Webb absent (excused). Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, was present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Lenossi.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

10/99/7 Moved by Lambert supported by Dick that the Board convene in Executive Session. Roll call showed: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:43 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 6:45 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

10/99/1 Moved by Lambert supported by McCraight that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth E. Berlinn, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, the Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, please call 734-942-6852.)

Thanksgiving Luncheon

This year's Thanksgiving luncheon promises to be extra special, since it will be hosted by teacher Betty Santo and her leadership students at Romulus Middle School. The afternoon of feasting and entertainment is planned for 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17.

Although the deadline for sign-up is November 12 at 3:30 p.m., the Center recommends earlier registration because space is limited.

Holiday Gala

The Center's annual Holiday Gala will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel on Monday, December 27, beginning at noon; dinner will follow at 12:30 p.m. The afternoon of fabulous food, great entertainment, prizes, and fun is an affordable \$7 per person, thanks to the generous sponsorship of DoubleTree and U.S. Park.

Again, due to limited space, the Center recommends registering well before the 3:30 p.m. deadline on December 17.

Free Oil Change

The Romulus High School auto lab department will be offering free oil changes for senior citizens on Friday, November 19. This service, which will begin at 8 a.m., is *by appointment only*. Call the Center for more information.

Wanted: Large Cardboard Boxes

The Romulus Senior Center is looking for donations of empty appliance-size cardboard boxes to be used for an important intergenerational project. Call 734-942-6852 to arrange for pick-up.

Bunko

The Romulus Senior Center is now hosting bunko games each Tuesday at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Ceramics

Instructor Doll Wands reminds everyone that her ceramics classes meet at the Center each Monday at 1 and 6 p.m. All are welcome.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852.

(Please note: Deposits reserve your seat for any bus trip. Complete payment is due at least two weeks prior to departure for day trips; for overnight trips, payment is due at least 30 days prior to departure. Checks may be made payable to the City of Romulus or the tour company.)

- **Mt. Pleasant**
(November 16; \$21);
- **"Mystery Tour"**
(November 17; \$55);
- **"The Living Bible" Wax Museum/ Mansfield, Ohio**
November 30; \$63);
- **"Festival of Lights"/Battle Creek**
(December 6; \$52); and
- **Radio City Rockettes/Fox Theatre**
(December 10; \$79).

Crime Watch

Crime Prevention Officer Joe Richardson of the Romulus Police Department will be at the Romulus Senior Center at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, for the Center's monthly Crime Watch program. New faces are always welcome.

Exercise/Toning

The Senior Center invites you to drop in at any of its free toning/stretching/aerobic exercise classes, which are held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served.

Please note: The Center recommends that all participants wear comfortable clothing, and urges anyone unused to physical exertion to consult a physician before beginning.

Center Offers Transportation Service

Round-trip transportation service within the Romulus city limits is available to local seniors each Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a fee of just \$1. Reservations must be made by 2 p.m. the day before.

Call 942-6852 during the Center's normal business hours.

Commodities Available at the Center

The Romulus Senior Center will be distributing commodities to qualified individuals on the third Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Preregistration (any weekday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; bring proof of income) is required for all first-time recipients.

Note: The Center's Linda Norman reports that many current commodities recipients have not yet brought in their proof of income for the new fiscal year, which runs from November 1999 through October 2000. She urges those who haven't already done so to come in right away. □

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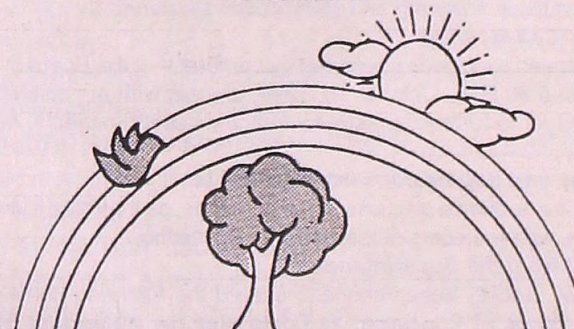
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If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information
concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

The Stork Arrived

Samantha Rose Wheatley

Louis and Andrea Wheatley of Belleville, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Samantha Rose Wheatley.

Born in Garden City Hospital (Garden City, MI) at 11:38 a.m. on Wednesday, September 15, 1999, Samantha weighed in at six pounds, 13 ounces, and measured 19 inches in length.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family was her big brother, Luke Moore, who will be 12 years old later this month.

Samantha's paternal grandparents are Gibson R. Wheatley (Mt. Pleasant, MI) and the late Ada Wheatley; Anna Moore (Romulus, MI) and the late Andy Moore are her maternal grandparents.



Samantha Rose Wheatley

Guest Commentary: HMOs

continued from page 2

- allow people with serious chronic illness and pregnant women to keep their doctors if the physicians leave the HMO or if their employer forces them into an HMO with which their doctor is not affiliated.

In health care, the comfort level that is established between patients and doctors is critical and it must be respected. Whether a patient is seriously ill or seeking routine preventive care, he

or she deserves quality treatment in which his or her needs are the doctor's top priority. Virtually anyone you ask will agree that a patient's well-being should be the primary focus of health care. We want to make sure that it is.

As always, if you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me (517-373-0152) or your own state legislator.

And don't forget to visit us on the Internet at www.housedems.com. □

Obituary

Mary F. (Grodi) Remelius

Mary F. (Grodi) Remelius of DeBary, Florida, died on Wednesday, October 27, 1999, at the age of 75.

The native of Erie, Michigan, was born March 20, 1924.

Surviving Mary are six sons, Robert F. (Taylor, MI), Richard A. (Romulus, MI), Kenneth J. (Romulus, MI), Charles A. (Panama City, FL), James R. (DeBary, FL), and Michael A. Remelius (Fayette, AK); three daughters, Mrs. Chuck (Sharon) Michalak (Trenton, MI), Mrs. Bill (Mary) Bias (Detroit, MI), and Mrs. Fred (Carol) Minda (DeBary, FL); one brother, Marvin Grodi; 21 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Among those predeceasing her were her husband, Melvin Remelius; one son, Billy Joe Remelius; and one brother, Charles Grodi.

A funeral service was held Monday, November 1, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Father Alexander Wytwał (St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock, MI). Memorial tributes may be made to Hospice and/or the American Cancer Society. □



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